

SAYS EVIL GENIUS KILLED RUTH WHEELER

Albert W. Welter, Charged With the
Murder, Makes Strangest Defense
Ever Heard.

NEW YORK, Special. The strangest defense ever advanced in a murder case was presented Wednesday when Albert W. Welter declared in his cell in the Tombs that a man who had been his "evil genius" during the time he has been in New York, killed thirteen-year-old Ruth Wheeler in the Welter apartment, at 224 East Seventy-fifth Street.

"This man would stop at nothing," said Welter. "He gained a strange control over me by insulating me. He frightened me, browbeat me, blackmailed me. Yet he always professed to like me very much. I now have a letter from him, in which he admits having killed Ruth Wheeler and says he will come forward and save me when it is necessary."

"I don't care about his doing that. I want to have him arrested. There is only one man upon whom suspicion can be directed. He has been my evil genius ever since I came to New York. I first met my evil genius at Coney Island, when I went there with my parents. He was a waiter. He seemed to take a great fancy to me, and he induced me to go to Coney Island frequently. Finally he began wielding a strong influence over me. One day he accused me of insulting his sweetheart and threatened to have me sent to prison. He frightened me and blackmailed me. The last time I saw him was the day before Ruth Wheeler lost her life. Then I was arrested, charged with killing Ruth Wheeler."

Welter's lawyer, Wallace E. Scott, admitted that he is searching for the man today. Welter said that he and the man planned to open a school for shorts, and that the man had access to the Welter apartment.

The prisoner said the mysterious man used to get into his apartment by shaking the door and thus releasing the lock. "Detective Scott," he said, "I saw the man today and tried to gain an entrance in this way. He failed. He examined the lock and found it to be a patent lock, which could not be opened or released except with the key that fitted it. The police declare Welter's story is false in every detail. 'Nobody but Albert Welter killed that girl,' said Inspector Tiras. 'He knows it just as well as we do, and we know what happened in his home when Ruth Wheeler was killed, just as well as he does.'"

WEEKLY SHORT STORY

SETTLED OUT OF COURT.

By Ludlum Lee.

Judge Sanford was hearing a case in the municipal court. The witness in the chair had just been sworn in, giving her full name as Lida Graves. Russell Roe, counsel for the plaintiff and an old friend of the Graves family, had asked her to tell just what she had seen regarding the accident when Mr. Brown had been run down by a large red touring car some two months before. He asked a few direct questions and then turned her over to the lawyer for the other side.

"Hugo Holland, counsel for the owner of the automobile, hesitated about putting this lovely girl on the rack of cross-examination, and when her great big eyes looked helplessly into his, he almost felt that the case was lost."

"What did you say your name was?" asked Holland, frowning about for a leading question.

"Lida Graves," replied the witness.

"What do you do for a livelihood?" followed up Holland.

Lida turned to the kindly-faced judge as if for explanation, and over his face came a sinister smile.

"He means are you a working woman," explained the judge. Then, turning to Holland, he scowled and continued: "I wish the counsel would stop this tomfoolery and ask questions pertaining to the case. Miss Graves is a lady of leisure—a blind man could see that. Come, come," and he rapped the desk with his gavel.

"You take an oath, do you, that the chauffeur did not sound the horn?" said Holland.

"Yes," answered the witness.

"You swear to that, do you?" reiterated the lawyer.

"How many times do you want the witness to repeat that statement?" interrupted Roe for the other side.

This started a warfare of objections and exceptions. The two lawyers and the judge became involved in legal technicalities. Holland asking one question and Roe objecting, the judge seemingly sustaining all objections.

The lawyers indulged in personalities and the judge pounded for order. Quiet again reigned in the courtroom.

"From the evidence before me I render a verdict in favor of Mr. Brown, the plaintiff, for \$1,000. The court will take recess until 2 o'clock," announced the judge.

Half an hour later Lida Graves and her maid entered a fashionable restaurant, secured a table in a cool corner of the room and ordered a light luncheon. She had come into town at the earnest plea of old Mr. Brown, whom she had seen injured by the touring car and had testified in his behalf.

Sipping her iced tea she glanced about the room and to her surprise at a nearby table saw the two lawyers who half an hour ago had been so personal in their remarks to each other.

The "pin-headed idiot" and the "latter-day attorney" had evidently decided to bury their differences in a friendly meal. Mr. Roe caught her eye, and in a few moments came up to her table.

"May I bring my friend, Mr. Holland over to meet you under more favorable circumstances?" he asked.

"You may not," answered Lida with some spirit. "That man is a brute—why, Mr. Roe, he accused me of—well, of actually telling an untruth on the stand."

"Oh, well, that's all in the business, you know, Miss Lida," soothed Roe. "He was paid to do that."

"What do you mean—a man receives money to accuse a woman of—"

Roe saw that his arguments were futile and returned to his friend. Lida finished her luncheon and took a train for Linden Beach, where the Graves family was spending the summer at a fashionable hotel.

JUBILANT OVER UNION OF CITIES

Singing Crowds Burn Lights, Fire Torpedoes and Otherwise Demonstrate Their Joy.

RICHMOND, VA. — Special. — Washington Ward, erstwhile Manchester, was in her glory Monday night singing crowds, giant firecrackers and huge torpedoes, put on the street car tracks, made a noise which, as big and as hideous as it was, but feebly expressed the joy of the 513 voters who cast their ballots for a Greater Richmond.

Pending the placing of the better lights, which Richmond is to give Washington Ward, huge bonfires lit up the streets, and torchlight parades corner painted the buildings and mirrored the faces of the holiday crowd a beautiful red.

Up and down Hull Street, from one end to the other, the great crowd moved slowly, singing and then cheering. A happy bunch of men, who had happened to place their cash on the winning side, blocked the sidewalk while they relieved themselves of some of the joy within them by an imitation of a song, and pausing to watch a street car run the gauntlet of torpedoes placed upon the track and proceed down the street to the accompaniment of successive detonations that could be heard all over Washington Ward.

It was a good-natured crowd, and, strange as it may seem, there were no drunken "Cassidy" men, no saloons, no closed from 12 o'clock Saturday night until 6 o'clock this morning, and to get home the merrymakers had to walk to the far end of Swansboro. This some did, but the majority could not resist the temptation to get away from the scene of the celebration even for their beloved liquor.

Of all the crowd there were a few who were not particularly joyous. We are not speaking of the "antis." They seemed to take their defeat with good grace and to join in the demonstration. A few, however, who could not help pausing often in the midst of the jubilation to figure up how much they were losing because they were compelled to keep their places closed.

In the city there was one man who for a time created a little excitement. This was a man who, in spite of the fire and red lights, was going up and down Hull Street with a lantern in his hand Diogenes-like, peering to the right and left, and every now and then halting a merrymaker and putting some question to him. A few of the curious drew close to him while he was quizzing Long Tom Smith.

"Did you vote against consolidation?"

"No, I certainly did not," came the indignant reply from the head of Substation A.

"There is no need of getting angry, my friend," soothed the Diogenes person. "I just wanted to know, for I have heard the Democrats say that you have voted against consolidation."

With a roar of laughter, the crowd moved on and old Diogenes continued to ask questions to the end of the street.

As the crowd moved down the street, the firecrackers and torpedoes came from troubling, the celebrants began slowly and reluctantly to seek their homes. Going down the cross streets, small knots of men could be heard singing, the sound of their voices growing fainter and fainter. This was what was heard from the direction of upper Hull Street, where the Washington Ward quarter, consisting of Dan Rogers, Billie Hill, Henry Marshall and Charlie McCann, held forth to an admiring throng.

"Well, here Dave Pulliam on tatter side the river."

While we go marching on."

"But all things must come to an end, a celebration in honor of so great an event as becoming a part of Richmond, and at a late hour the streets of that Washington Ward quarter were deserted, and the great day had passed into history."

SWANSON TALKS ON BIG POLITICS

Former Governor Says Democrats Will Have Good Chance to Elect President in 1912.

RICHMOND, VA. — Special. — The Democrats are nearer to electing a President of the United States than they have been since 1892, in the opinion of former Governor Claude A. Swanson, of Virginia, who is at the Raleigh, says The Washington Post. Governor Swanson recently completed a tour that extended to the Pacific Coast, through California, the grand canyon of the Yellowstone, into the insurgent districts of the Middle West, and other parts of the country, where through orators are to be met.

"Everywhere I observed a condition that indicates a political upheaval which will give the Democrats control of the next House of Representatives," said Governor Swanson last night. "The victory which is sure to be won by the Democrats in the coming congressional elections will give the party an impetus, an ambition, and vigor that will carry the Democratic nominee for President into the White House in 1912. Not in years have the Democrats shown so much activity, so much desire to shake off lethargy, to hold harmony banquets, and to get together as is manifested at this time, and with such a spirit pervading the leaders and the rank and file of Democracy, taken together with the dissension and dissatisfaction existing among the Republicans, I can see no other result than a political revolution which will give the Democrats power once more."

The third is sure to be a vital issue in the fall campaign. There is no doubt that the people of the West are dissatisfied with the new schedules. They say so openly, and this question cannot fail to be the big issue of the congressional campaigns in the West, where the Democrats are in the majority. I saw in the Pacific district the Democrats may look with confidence to gaining a number of seats in the next House in that part of the country. The people are with the insurgents, and if the regulars attempt to force the country in 1912, I have observed a disposition among leading Democrats to await developments, to wait until things have crystallized, so that the best judgment may be used. In Governor Harmon, of Ohio, and Mayor Gaynor, the Democratic party has two strong men, about one of whom the Democrats—youth and old—would rally. Governor Harmon, re-elected in Ohio, and I do not see any combination of political circumstances at this time that can prevent such a consummation. It would seem probable would be the nominee. He is certainly a strong and popular man with the people. Gaynor is making good in New York, and so I say the Democrats have two exceedingly formidable candidates for the presidency.

Believe the country is on the eve of a great political revolution, and I say that the Democrats are nearer to electing a President than they have been at any time since 1892."

Knowledge of the danger was kept from the passengers, and preparations were quickly made to take them off. The ship was loaded by wireless, and the Kanawha. The boats of both steamers were put into the service, and in a remarkably short time the change had been made.

With every person safe the vessels began to run against time for Dover.

The batches of the Cairnora were being loaded by wireless, and at last it could be seen. She is owned by Cairns, Noble & Co., of New Castle, where she was built in 1909. Her tonnage is 3,260.

Concerning Oratory.

When Patrick Henry made his speech in the Virginia House of Burgesses, he stood on the beach and sprang to arms.

Responsive to his fervid mood.

That fateful day.

They promptly sprang to arms and stood in stern array.

But we might still pay England rent, so says hint.

His Patrick Henry been content with leave to print.

—Washington Herald.

Electing Committeemen.

The board took up the matter of making a new committee on auditing the books of the department. Messrs. Barker and Arvin were re-elected, and W. W. Spruell was chosen to succeed Mr. Goodwyn, who is not so situated that he can attend the meetings as promptly as he would like.

LEAVES HER SICK BED TO BECOME A BRIDE.

HARTFORD, CONN.—Special. In defiance of the strict orders of her father, Dr. J. Francis Caffey, a prominent physician of Middletown, and despite the pleading of her mother, Miss Edith D. Caffey insisted on getting up from a sick bed where she had lain for two days suffering from malarial fever in order that she might marry Henry A. E. Ackerson, a lawyer of Keyport, N. J., in Middletown today.

Miss Caffey was determined that the invited guests must not be disappointed, and, moreover, admitted that she harbored some superstition about postponing a wedding day in view of the fact that she had herself dressed in her bridal gown and was supported to the church.

Besides malarial fever, Miss Caffey had been suffering from the grip contracted while superintending the arrangements for the wedding for which hundreds of invitations had been issued.

NEW YORK.—Special.—A terrific battle for control of the cotton market is imminent. James A. Patten, the famous Chicago wheat and cotton speculator, who rushed into New York on the eighteen-hour train, clad in his war regalia, said Friday that he was here for a "fight to a finish with McFadden."

Mr. Patten was found today in the lobby of the Waldorf-Astoria with two friends, whom he introduced as Mr. Haynes and Mr.

WILLIAM CAMERON DIES SUDDENLY

Apparently in Best of Health, He Expires in the Westmoreland Club.

RICHMOND, VA. — Special. — William Cameron, Jr., son of Colonel and Mrs. Alex. Cameron, died suddenly in the Westmoreland Club Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock. He had not been ill, and his demise was a shock to the members of his family and his wide circle of friends both in business and club circles.

"Billy" Cameron, as he was popularly known, had just had breakfast and walked up to the club. Death was due to heart failure. Mr. Cameron had frequently complained of a weak heart.

When a boy Mr. Cameron attended the Thomas Norwood School here. Later he went to Hampden-Sidney and the University of Virginia. He was identified with his brother in the tobacco business here. He is survived by his parents and the following brothers: Alex., Jr., Barton Haxall, James, Blackwood and Ewell Donald Cameron, and four sisters, Mrs. Haden Crossman, of Harrisburg, Pa.; Mrs. George Zinn, of Orange county, and Misses Mrs. Haxall and Janet Gordon Cameron.

The funeral took place from the residence, 519 east Franklin street, Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

DEPARTURE OF ROOSEVELT DOES NOT BRING PEACE.

ROME.—Special.—The departure of Theodore Roosevelt has by no means brought peace to Rome. The latest phase of the dispute between the former President and the Vatican developed this afternoon when the Pope expressed his regret at having been prevented from meeting Mr. Roosevelt. His Holiness, however, made no comment on the dispute.

He mentioned his regret to several prominent prelates at an informal gathering.

Cardinal Merry Del Val, the Papal secretary of state, is still bitterly attacked by all the newspapers that do not admit their allegiance to the church.

Miss Ethel Roosevelt and Kermit spent today principally in sightseeing. Miss Ethel is in much favor with the leaders of society here, and many entertainments have been planned for her before her departure to rejoin her parents. Kermit seems to be thoroughly enjoying himself.

MILWAUKEE HAS SOCIALIST MAYOR.

New Executive Will Work for Initiative and Referendum and Three-Cent Street Car Fare.

WILWAUKEE, WIS. Special. Mayor-elect Emil Seidel, the first Socialist to be elected the head of a large city in the United States, Wednesday outlined program of his administration.

"My election, by a plurality of 8,000 over the Republican and Democratic candidates, is significant," he said. "And what is more important to the Socialist-Democratic party is the fact that it carried fourteen of the twenty-three wards and secured six Aldermen-at-large, securing a majority in the Council."

A Socialist Mayor, without such a majority, would be helpless.

"Here are the main aims for which we will work: The initiative and referendum; 3-cent car fares, the eight-hour day, municipal ice and gas plants and wood and coal, and work for the unemployed with union labor conditions. Those are the main objects, and probably the ones which will cause us the most difficulty to bring about."

"But they are not all. I promise the people of Milwaukee a clean administration, and I will get it, but they will also get many other reforms less important or less significant."

The Socialist Councilmen in the last few years have done much in the way of reform and have made the city parties to become more radical. The election of Social-Democrats to the State Legislature has had the same effect."

King Edward III.

GENOA.—Special.—It is understood here that the King of England is so seriously ill that only a Mediterranean cruise can restore his health. His old throat trouble is said to be bothering him seriously, and his stay at Biarritz has done him little good. It was announced today that, accompanied by Queen Alexandra, he will sail on the royal yacht from here on April 24th for a cruise in Italian, Greek and African waters.

REV. G. W. McDaniel Holds Revival in Roanoke.

ROANOKE, VA.—Special.—Rev. Dr. George W. McDaniel, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Richmond, closed a ten-days' revival at Calvary Baptist Church last Thursday night, which proved to be the greatest religious awakening in the history of the congregation.

At the last service held there were nearly a dozen conversions, and as a result of Dr. McDaniel's preaching within ten days there were more than two score additions to the Calvary congregation, and more than a score of additional conversions to Christ.

Dr. McDaniel's eloquence and simplicity won the hearts of the people of Roanoke, and large congregations eagerly listened to him both afternoon and night during the entire revival, and when the great meeting came to a close last night an immense audience arose en masse and recorded a standing vote of thanks for the great spiritual work accomplished during his brief sojourn in Roanoke.

Dr. McDaniel left last night for his home in Richmond.

SEND REINFORCEMENTS FOR GENERAL ESTRADA.

NEW ORLEANS, LA. — Special.—General Gordon, the filibuster chief, outwitted a force of State Department detectives Thursday morning and sailed for Bluefields with a squad of reinforcements for Estrada's revolutionary army, just before a detail of the officers arrived at the wharf to hold up the expedition.

LAUNCH BOOM FOR JUDSON HARMON

Illinois Democratic League to Set Off First Fireworks for Governor of Ohio.

CHICAGO, ILL. Special. At the Jeffersonian banquet of the Illinois Democratic League at the Press Club of Chicago, tonight will be launched one of the earliest of presidential booms for 1912. It will be that of Judson Harmon, Governor of Ohio, according to leading members of the league.

John E. Lamb, vice chairman of the Democratic National Committee, will be the principal speaker. Others who will contribute are Colonel J. Hamilton and A. J. Safford.

An Era of Good Feeling.

My heart's so full of love today for all my fellow men, I'll gladly knock somebody down to help him up again.

—Lida.

WOODSTOCK IRON PROPERTY SOLD

LYNCHBURG, VA.—Special.—H. E. McVane, president of the syndicate owning pipe foundries here and at Radford, and which will construct another at Norfolk, announced Friday that these interests, through the syndicate, had sold the Woodstock Iron Property at Annullon, Ala.

The company purchasing these properties is chartered at \$600,000. The property bought by the Lynchburg syndicate consists of two definitely defined areas having a combined acreage of 275 tons, and more than 50,000 acres of ore and timber land, and immense deposits of iron ore.

The purchase also includes control of the Miner Coal and Railway Company at Newcastle, Ala., which owns 8,000 acres of coal land, 300 coke ovens, and facilities for mining a thousand tons of coal a day.

By this deal the Lynchburg Foundry Company will control its supply of raw materials, being a customer of the furnace to the extent of more than 50,000 tons of pig iron annually.

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